DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 395 635 JC 960 389

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TITLE Partnerships: Door to the Future for Community Colleges.
INSTITUTION Kirkwood Community Coll., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
PUB DATE [96]
NOTE 19p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS College School Cooperation; Community Colleges; Cooperative Programs; *Corporate Support; Educational Cooperation; *Educational Finance; *Partnerships in Education; Program Descriptions; Public Agencies; *School Business Relationship; *School Community Relationship; *Shared Resources and Services; Two Year Colleges
IDENTIFIERS *Kirkwood Community College IA

ABSTRACT

In response to diminishing resources, Kirkwood Community College (KCC), in Iowa, has made efforts to develop partnerships with public and private agencies to provide organizational and financial support. This report reviews the development of partnerships at KCC and highlights specific agreements. The first part reviews the history of partnership development at the college, highlighting enabling legislation, early partnerships, and sample techniques used to develop agreements. This section indicates that, from 1983 to 1993, KCC economic development officers produced $29 million in training contracts with more than 125 private companies. The next part of the report provides brief descriptions of 19 private partnerships maintained by KCC, including efforts related to a computer training services center, a truck driver education program, a business center, career programs and centers, media development and distribution, automotive technology training, agricultural programs, mentoring programs for educationally disadvantaged students, and health services and education. The final part of the report highlights 31 partnerships with public agencies, including agreements related to a vocational individualized training and learning program, municipal infrastructure improvement, high school vocational programs, distance learning training, teacher in-service training for remote instruction, water and wastewater training, environmental education, fire service training, hazardous waste worker safety training, strategic community and economic development planning, university extension, cable television programming, and penal education. (TGI)

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Partnerships:

Door to the Future for Community Colleges

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Partnerships: Door to the Future for Community Colleges

Dr. Norm R. Nielsen
President,
Kirkwood Community College

Budgets shrivel and shrink. State support drops. The public demands more programs and services. The business community wants more vocational programs. The community college is forced to downsize, postpone plant maintenance and set aside plans for new programs.

You, the college president, can fill in the blanks and write the rest of the story. Details may differ, but the story is virtually the same nationwide.

Regional economic conditions dictated when the story started for each college. It happened early in the Northeast United States, at the same time that real estate values collapsed and high-tech industry was struggling. The problem became very serious after that in the Southeast and coastal areas. In Iowa, a critical state budget crisis swept the entire community college system into its own recession.

The easy-out for community colleges at this point is the same thing that individuals and families seem to do when they are hit by financial challenges. They keep quiet, cut back on their lifestyles and suffer together. They take the attitude that maybe things will get better, with luck, and in good time.

Way of Life

It's time for us to develop a different attitude. First, community colleges must admit that what is happening is not a short-term crisis. Financial challenges and shrinking support have become a way of life for all of us in higher education. Our needs are great, but our resources are limited. There is no reason to believe that a reviving economy will change that in the near future.

Kirkwood Community College looks back on a very exciting three-year period and makes this recommendation to others: Find some friends.

Call those friends partners. Then find more friends. Build partnerships as you address the important needs in your community. Show those partners how useful the community college can be to them. Ask partners to support you both financially and organizationally.

Kirkwood engaged in a study of institutional effectiveness in 1990-91. One of the conclusions was that the college should emphasize strong partnerships with both public and private agencies to meet the growing challenge of the Nineties.

New Jobs Law Opened Door

The key to success was two Iowa laws, 260E and 260F, enacted in 1983. Together, they are known as the Iowa Industrial New Jobs Training Program. They permit new or expanding industries to enter into training contracts with community colleges at no cost to the industry. Financing these contracts is made possible by directing anticipated property and income taxes to the community college for the purpose of training new employees. These contracts have created lasting partnerships among the community college, businesses, and industries.

Kirkwood had already been using the New Jobs law aggressively. A staff of economic development officers has now produced $29 million in training contracts with more than 125 private companies between 1983 and 1993. The company expansion projects created more than 7,100 new jobs in Kirkwood's service area.

Through our business/industry partners, Kirkwood gained new influence in the business community. Previously unheard-of things began happening.

Early Partnerships: Off-campus Degrees

One example was the establishment of on-site college degree study programs by Kirkwood within two large industries, IES Industries and AEGON USA, a fast-growth company headquartered in Baltimore with a large insurance company in Cedar Rapids. Employees of both companies were now able to earn their associate degrees through classes held at company sites.

Kirkwood was establishing an important base of credibility through partnerships like those. The college found out how important partnerships were when it launched the first major fund-raising campaign in its 25-year history.

Fund Drive Reveals Friends

Business leaders, many of whom had benefited from new jobs training programs with Kirkwood, listened to our campaign proposal. In 1992, Kirkwood exceeded its $5 million campaign goal ahead of schedule.

That campaign gained Kirkwood more friends and precipitated more partnerships. In fact, at a campaign celebration and dinner dance, a conversation between the AEGON USA chief executive and the Kirkwood president opened the door to one of the most exciting partnerships of all.

Kirkwood Joins AEGON USA

On June 18, 1993, Kirkwood made a joint announcement with AEGON USA that they had reached an agreement for construction of a $10 million computer facility on the Kirkwood campus--financed entirely by AEGON.

The center will house AEGON USA's Corporate Data Center. Over 10,000 square feet of the center will provide Kirkwood with a state-of-the-art computer training center.

In existing campus space vacated by the Kirkwood computer center, the college will open a 6,000 square foot career development center. There, the college will join with other community agencies to open a one-stop site for career testing, assessment, counseling, academic advising, and placement services. The Iowa Department of Job Services, JTPA, Grant Wood Area Education Agency and other state/regional agencies will cooperate in development of the center.

Campus Attracts Partners

Co-location on Kirkwood's campus by independent public agencies is nothing new. The Heritage Agency on Aging serves a multi-county area from its headquarters building on our campus. The East Central Iowa Council of Governments is housed on the Kirkwood campus. Kirkwood this summer signed an agreement to house the Extension Service staff from Iowa State University in a campus building.

These arrangements with other public agencies are another form of partnership. Housing these agencies on our ample 320-acre campus builds greater cooperation as we all attempt to serve public needs.

An Environmental Partnership

Kirkwood has parlayed a long record of involvement in environmental education into another partnership. Together with Eastern Iowa Community College, we entered a formal partnership to offer health and safety training and services to other colleges, industry and private trainers. The partnership, titled the Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute, is funded with grants from industry and the government.

A staff of eight persons is employed by HMTRI. The institute is an Iowa not-for-profit corporation with an independent accounting system. It has had outstanding success in obtaining government funding and disbursing the funds to partner colleges for the training of environmental workers.

Companies Help Swine Lab

College partnerships with other public agencies are important, because they simply make sense in the delivery of educational services. But even more exciting are partnerships with private groups. These partnerships sometimes take more work to effect, but can be of equal benefit.

An outstanding Kirkwood-private partnership is a new swine teaching laboratory which the college just opened last winter in cooperation with several donor companies. Those companies are concerned with helping the Iowa pork industry retain its leadership role in the nation. The industry employs 166,000 persons in Iowa.

The farrow-to-finish swine laboratory incorporates remote television teaching equipment which will allow Kirkwood to telecast instructional programs statewide, nationwide and worldwide by interactive television over our satellite uplink system. Programming will begin during the coming year. The laboratory will also be used as the prime teaching facility for Kirkwood's daytime swine production education program. The financial contributions from the Pioneer Hi-Bred International and others made possible the replacement of Kirkwood's outmoded swine teaching facilities. The project also received a contribution from the Iowa Pork Producers Assn. It has the endorsement of Iowa State University and the University of Iowa.

Toyota Enters Classroom

A Kirkwood partnership with the Toyota Motor Sales America Corporation shows how a college can join with private industry for the benefit of both students and the public.

The Kirkwood T-Ten program is a two-year, Associate of Applied Science Degree program designed to update the competence of automotive technicians entering Toyota dealerships and other automotive repair facilities. Toyota provides Kirkwood with scholarships, training aids, laboratory automobiles, and cooperative training sites for Kirkwood automotive technician students. The college provides classroom and lab training, master certified instructors, recruitment activities, cooperative education coordination and other support for the program.

Qualified Kirkwood students already enrolled in automotive training are selected for T-Ten. Kirkwood's regular curriculum includes Toyota-specific instruction modules. At a given time, up to eight of Kirkwood's students may be involved in T-Ten. The program was introduced in 1986 and has proven very popular.

Networking

Lying just outside the parameters of classroom/programming partnerships are the things Kirkwood does cooperatively to encourage the sharing of information and professional development among community colleges. Membership in the League for Innovation in the Community College brings us into contact with other leader institutions. Kirkwood is also a very active member of Community Colleges for International Development, which involves 20 member colleges and 33 affiliate members in promoting global education through exchange programs for students and faculty and major development projects with foreign countries.

Strong Base Needed

Experience with partnerships at Kirkwood has taught us one other lesson: colleges need strong college transfer, vocational, and community education programming as a base for partner ships. Over a period of time, truly comprehensive colleges

build credibility within their community first by offering quality education programs.

Active advisory committees, high quality faculty and innovative outreach programming give us this credibility. Because of this strong base, industries and other public agencies are drawn into the circle of partnerships.

Examples of college-industry partnerships like the Kirkwood swine laboratory and the Toyota T-Ten program would not have happened without that strong tradition of quality in college programs.

This monograph provides a listing and brief descriptions of more than 50 currently active partnerships at Kirkwood. The list seems to grow daily.

More Than Just Friends

Kirkwood's rewarding experience with its major gifts campaign opened our eyes to the power of partnerships. We realized during that campaign that cooperative projects launched during the Eighties had made more friends for the college than we ever imagined. We found that these friends were more than just friends. They were individuals and organizations that were now ready to contribute financially and to join more partnerships with the college.

Yes, community colleges and higher education in general face a problem with consumer confidence. We must increase our accountability and be willing to use measurable outcomes as proof of our effectiveness in education. We face increased demands for vocational/technical education programs, and difficulty in funding them.

But the present also provides the greatest opportunity for change and innovation in education since World War II. Community colleges are better positioned than any other sector of education to respond to these challenges.

Partnerships are the door to the future for community colleges.

College presidents and administrators cannot create successful partnerships if they do not have certain key ingredients. Those ingredients include a creative staff willing to give time to special projects, faculty members who accept input from partners outside the college walls, and college trustees who are willing to take some risks. Partnerships take hard work by all concerned. They may not work for some colleges. But our conclusion is that partnership programs contribute greatly to the productivity of the institution.

KIRKWOOD PARTNERSHIPS

PRIVATE

Computer Training Services Center

Kirkwood and AEGON USA Inc. announced joint plans in 1993 to establish AEGON North American Corporate Data Center in 55,000-square-foot facility on Kirkwood campus. In return for site, college will have full use of 10,000 square feet in center to establish new computer instructional lab and class rooms. Project will free major space in existing campus facilities for other uses by college. AEGON USA will locate 50 employees in new campus center to provide service for agent and customer claims, billing and data services for growing AEGON network of insurance companies.

Clinical Facilities

More than 150 health care agencies, medical offices, dental offices and laboratories provide clinical facilities needed for Kirkwood's nine health sciences programs.

Truck Driver Education Partnership

As part of major physical expansion of Kirkwood truck driver training range, college formed partnership with CRST Co. CRST donated cost of paving 5.5-acre truck range in return for discounted tuition charges for 3,000 CRST driver trainees over period of three years by college. Kirkwood presently working to expand truck driver program by adding driver simulation component, in partnership with a major University of Iowa project.

New Business Center

While some partnerships require long periods of planning and debate, others succeed quickly because they make so much sense to the partners. Example is the Kirkwood New Business Center. This is a new-business incubation center opened by Kirkwood in 1988. Since then, 24 new businesses have located in center for various periods of time. They receive shared support services, low rent, and a stream of community education business offerings from Kirkwood. College helps one-person businesses get started. When they reach a certain level of success, they are encouraged to leave the center. NBC has financial support and consulting services from growing group of utility companies, area development organizations, interested individuals, government agencies and entrepreneurs. Eighteen-member advisory group volunteers time to assist business tenants. New jobs are created, and the new businesses grow to pump more money into

the local economy. Partners in NBC include City of Marion, Iowa Electric Services, Kirkwood, the Linge Trust, Linn County Bankers Assn., Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative, Marion Economic Development Corp., Marion Independent School District and Priority One, a metropolitan development group.

ACT Assessment/ Research Partnership

American College Testing committed to partnership as in-kind contribution to college during Kirkwood fund campaign. Written agreement includes five Kirkwood-ACT priority projects to facilitate advancement of assessment and research in two-year colleges for advancement of education. One priority calls for college to provide satellite uplink system for ACT use in conducting national satellite conferences. Another priority commits ACT to facilitate Kirkwood institutional effectiveness and student assessment plan required of college by North Central Assn., accrediting agency.

Careers 101 Summer Camp

Community and business leaders conduct career inventories and job shadowing experiences for high school students in three-week summer camp on Kirkwood campus and at business locations. Kirkwood students provide participants with shadowing experience in college career programs.

Kirkwood/Irwin Publishers Partnership

Irwin Publishers, a Times-Mirror corporation, has worked with Kirkwood to develop and distribute media in support of company's accounting textbooks. College, with company financial support, developed two accounting videocourses. Latest project provides company support for development of interactive videodiscs to support both textbooks and telecourses.

Jazz Under the Stars

Corporate sponsors join Kirkwood public radio station, KCCK-FM, in annual series of jazz and blues outdoor concerts in city park. Popular concerts occur weekly in August with cooperation from city parks department.

Iowa City Jazz Festival

KCCK-FM is active participant with Iowa City business community in spring outdoor jazz festival. New additions to program in 1993 were master classes, lectures and competitions.

Rural Telecommunications Project

Kirkwood joins 30 small, independent telephone companies in its service area to improve involvement of telephone exchanges in local economic development activity. Project brings industry and economic development groups into coalitions with telecommunications providers.

On-site Degree Programs

Kirkwood's work with contracted job training under law often leads to development of unique college degree programs at industrial sites in partnership with industries. Programs of this type opened in 1990 in partnership with Iowa Electric Co. and AEGON USA. Employees of those companies can now work toward two-year associate degree and/or four-year college degree without having to leave their work sites. Both on-site programs followed contract training programs with the companies. Kirkwood in 1993 was negotiating with other companies to introduce new on-site degree programs.

Toyota Technical Education Network

Kirkwood participates in a two-year, associate degree education program, T-Ten, with Toyota Motor Sales America. Toyota-specific instructional material integrated into Kirkwood automotive technology program. Toyota provides work-study positions for qualified students outside Kirkwood instructional schedule. Goal is to encourage professionalism and competence among automotive technicians. Kirkwood provides classroom and laboratory training and a base of program accreditation from National Institute for Automotive Services Excellence. Toyota provides scholarships, training aids, lab autos, and co-op training sites for Kirkwood students. Partnership assures high level of competence by program graduates entering careers with Toyota dealerships and other auto repair facilities.

Iowa Industrial New Jobs Program

Iowa Law Sections 260E and 260F are among most effective incentive programs in nation for training industry workers and stimulating job growth. Law allows community college to enter partnerships with expanding industries. Colleges enter training contracts with industries at no cost to industries. Contracts may involve either customized training or on-job training at plant site. Training contracts funded by sale of taxable or tax exempt certificates and repaid over ten years by diversion of property taxes from increased value of buildings, machinery and equipment and/or employee state withholding taxes. The 260F program is reserved for assisting smaller, higher-risk start-up businesses by same method with new employee training costs. Through 260E and 260F since 1983, Kirkwood has provided $29 million in training funding support to more than 125 companies. Partnerships assisted in creation of 7,111 new jobs in college's seven-county district. In State of Iowa, New Jobs program has initiated 598 job training projects, all associated with expanding companies engaged in manufacturing, assembly or processing, interstate service, transportation, wholesale distribution, research or development. Kirkwood considers program a key to formation of many important partnerships with private sector.

Swine Teaching Laboratory

Partnerships and cost sharing with agricultural industries made possible opening of one of the most advanced swine education/production centers in America during 1993. Laboratory on Kirkwood campus responds to need for improved education and demonstration facilities for the Iowa swine industry, which employs 166,000 persons and is the largest industry in state. Kirkwood's farrow-to-finish facility features breeding gestation building, farrowing rooms, nurseries, classroom and computer laboratory. Plans call for future construction of a hog finishing building. Closed circuit television will enable Kirkwood students and pork producer audiences to view lab procedures and demonstrations without entering the production facility. By interactive TV, the college can deliver live instruction to off-campus sites in seven-county service area. Transmissions can also be made from the campus throughout Iowa via statewide fiber optics system on Iowa Communications Network. Satellite television will also allow sending programming nationwide and worldwide. Kirkwood provided $400,000 of total $1.2 million project cost. Wallace Technology Transfer Foundation provided $200,000 and Pioneer Hi-Bred provided $200,000 with provision that Kirkwood raise $400,000 in matching monies from other companies in the swine industry. Other companies donating total of $175,000 to project were Diamond V Mills, Firstar Banks, Iowa Pork Producers Assn. and National SPF Swine Accrediting Agency, Inc. Other partners are still being secured.

The swine facility replaces outmoded Kirkwood instructional buildings and will assure the college of having one of the most advanced swine education laboratories in nation for use in Farm and Ranch Technology swine program. Pork industry partners in project will have numerous opportunities to serve on advisory boards, and to use facility and media services for developing video materials for benefit of clients.

Project START

A cooperative program between Kirkwood and Hall Foundation, a private foundation. Provides broad-based mentoring and supported education to students who face barriers which might prevent them from enrolling or completing academic goals at Kirkwood. Provides financial assistance, alternative test-taking, advocacy, tutoring, developmental education, and individualized instruction. Participants expected to become self-sufficient within one year. A special effort through partnership with private organization to assist needy students.

Kirkwood/St. Luke's Outreach

College formed partnership with St. Luke's Hospital in rural communities of Monticello and Tipton. In both communities, college shares buildings for joint delivery of education and health services programs to community. At both locations, Kirkwood delivers extensive college credit and continuing education activities via interactive television. At Monticello, facility

also houses Four Oaks group home for teenage women, where Kirkwood provides adult high school education programming. Shared centers provide smaller communities with important points of activity for community health and education delivery.

Iowa City Computer Partnership

Iowa City schools proposed partnerships to strengthen use of computers in school district. First National Bank provided low-interest financing for purchase of almost 200 computers for school faculty and staff. Kirkwood provided 20 hours of customized training at no cost through college foundation.

Career Development Center

Kirkwood will partner with many employment and human services agencies to open a career development services center in existing space vacated with the opening of the AEGON USA computer services center. Career center will house testing, exploration and related career development services needed to sustain an increasingly productive Eastern Iowa workforce. Center staffing will be shared by Kirkwood and cooperating agencies; and by corporations engaged in testing, worker assessment and career exploration activities. Center will incorporate a conference/presentation facility for use by student and worker groups. This facility will have capability of staging interactive career information programs. Partners in center will include Iowa Department of Human Services, JTPA, St. Luke's Hospital, Mercy Medical Center, University of Iowa, ACT, MCI, Rockwell International and the IBM Corp.

Kirkwood/Mt. Mercy Trust

In response to Kirkwood's major gifts campaign, a Cedar Rapids donor approached Kirkwood and Mount Mercy College about the formation of a trust that would generate a creative, innovative partnership. The Kirkwood-Mount Mercy Trust will enable the donor to make a substantial gift to Kirkwood which would also benefit students transferring to Mount Mercy, a four-year institution. In addition, development officers from both institutions will work together to raise funds from individuals, corporations and foundations in order to enhance the Trust.

The goal of the Trust is to train and educate skilled, qualified employees in a broad educational experience. Funds from the Trust would be allocated to Kirkwood students planning to transfer to Mount Mercy. At present, over one-third of Mount Mercy's junior class is comprised of Kirkwood graduates.

Kirkwood would train the students for specific career experiences, such as Construction Technology, Industrial Maintenance, or Communication Electronics. After their transfer, Mount Mercy would employ the students at the college in order to supplement financial assistance. The students would then conceivably be employable as middle managers by local businesses.

KIRKWOOD PARTNERSHIPS

PUBLIC

VITAL

Vocational Individualized Training and Learning Program involves Kirkwood, area high schools and the regional area education agency in integrated vocational-technical training for young adults with disabilities. Combines occupational and academic skill training with a resource lab classroom on Kirkwood campus. Kirkwood provides instructional programs, management, instruction, and registration services. Grant Wood AEA provides social work, testing, speech therapy and consulting services. Area high schools provide referral and screening, individual education planning and records management.

Electroneurodiagnostic Tech Cooperative

Kirkwood primary sponsor of program at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. University Department of Neurology provides program with fulltime instructor/coordinator, adjunct faculty and facilities for technical program courses.

Health Adjunct Faculty Coop

Veterans Medical Center at University of Iowa provides two adjunct faculty positions for Kirkwood, one for Associate Degree nursing program, another for Kirkwood program in respiratory therapy.

Health Facilities Partnerships

St. Luke's Hospital and Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids and Veterans Medical Center, Iowa City, all provide classrooms which serve as central locations for cooperative education programs Kirkwood operates with local high schools in seven-county area of East Central Iowa.

Municipal Infrastructure

As part of truck driver facilities improvement program, city of Cedar Rapids extended water line, installed outdoor lighting and laid special skid pad surface in exchange for city use of truck range and classrooms for several police driving school events annually.

Jointly Administered High School Vocational Programs

Students from 22 area high schools cooperate with Kirkwood in education programs in health careers, auto collision, welding

and small engine repair. Programs competency-based and articulated with Kirkwood's postsecondary vocational programs. Health careers programs scheduled in local hospitals and care centers to develop job skills as nurse aides and give high school students advanced placement at Kirkwood in postsecondary health science programs.

Telecommunications Partnership

Kirkwood leads secondary school network with 15 area high schools to share both high school and college credit courses by college's live, interactive television system. Kirkwood is fiscal and coordinating agency to deliver high school courses in Russian language, technical math, environmental science and career development. High school students can also earn college credit in calculus, psychology, sociology and history in courses on this system. Kirkwood Telecommunications System is used by Grant Wood Area Education Agency, an intermediate agency serving local K-12 school districts, to deliver a major program of teacher in-service education to local teachers in seven-county area.

Workforce 2000

In cooperation with Anamosa High School and JTPA, Kirkwood developed an at-risk program to help keep students in school. Curriculum emphasizes applied learning, career development, mathematics and personal development. Program enrolled 16 freshman and sophomore students first year.

Wilson Elementary School Partnership

A resource-sharing partnership with neighborhood school near Kirkwood campus. During initial year, Kirkwood faculty and students assisted Wilson in design and landscape plan for school grounds, production of videotape orienting new students at Wilson, development of Earth Day program and tour program for Wilson students at new Kirkwood floriculture/horticulture facility. Wilson faculty and staff allowed Kirkwood access to school computer lab for adult literacy classes. Wilson also welcomes Kirkwood education careers students to study school's holistic scoring program for writing instruction.

Articulation Agreements

Kirkwood developed and signed articulation agreements with more than 80 area school districts allowing high school students to earn advanced placement in vocational programs at Kirkwood for competencies developed while in high school. Program strengthens relations between high school and college faculty and provides smoother transition for students to college.

Kirkwood Systems

Kirkwood develops computer systems to benefit other community colleges. With financial assistance from the user colleges, Kirkwood Computer Information Systems office developed software for financial accounting, payroll/ personnel, student records and financial assistance systems. System provides mutual benefits for many user colleges in Iowa, Illinois and Ohio.

Kirkwood/UNI Distance Learning Training

Over five years' time, Kirkwood and University of Northern Iowa work to stage workshops and other training programs for teachers becoming involved in distance learning. Partners successfully applied for state grants to support equipment purchases. Kirkwood and UNI staff work together.

Star Schools Regional Partnership

Kirkwood, Grant Wood Area Education Agency and local education associations share $191,000 grant for purchase of equipment and providing teacher in-service training for remote instruction using state fiber-optic inter-active network. Project is part of statewide program funded by $4 million federal grant to facilitate opening of state teaching network. Star Schools coordinated by state community colleges in partnership.

Community College Satellite Network

A cooperative program involving six community colleges nationwide. Colleges are primary uplink sites for Community College Satellite Network (CCSN).

CEPROS-HMTRI

Centros de Estudios de Problemas de Coynutura, Prevision y Prospectiva, A.C. (CEPROS), is partnership formed in 1993 to prepare Mexican trainers to deliver HMTRI-certified environmental technician and worker training in Mexico and to Spanish-speaking audiences in the U.S.

HMTRI (Kirkwood and Eastern Iowa CC) trains CEPROS trainers who in turn translate HMTRI training curriculum into Spanish. CEPROS is non-profit research and training center established by university-based professors in Mexico City.

Iowa Joint Training Coordinating Committee

Informal group of providers in water and wastewater training in Iowa. Coordinates schedules, insures proper reporting and recording of student records with Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and provides forum for DNR to disseminate information on training needs. Three educational and six professional organizations active.

Centers of Excellence Alliance

Informal alliance provides program marketing, client referral and sharing of information for several Midwestern environmental education programs. Composed of institutions with superior programs by standards of quality instructional staff, facilities and curriculum.

Central Iowa Training Association

Partnership of fire departments in eight counties which promotes fire service training. Sponsors fall fire school, video library and short courses. Active executive board and fire school committee has representatives from all eight counties. Over 100 fire departments are members.

Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training

Grant-supported partnership of five community colleges offering hazardous waste worker safety training in local areas. Funding for training administration from National Institute of Environmental Health Science. The only consortium for community colleges funded by NIEHS.

Center for Quality

In fall of 1993, Kirkwood and Grant Wood Area Education Agency will open a regional center on quality. Area quality council will provide leadership for programs. Services provided by center will include resource materials, technical assistance, assessment services, leadership training and quality awareness training. Services to be targeted to retail business, manufacturing, service businesses, education, government, labor and other non-profit entities. Area quality network will be formed to provide support for those wishing to learn about quality improvement practices.

East Central Iowa Council of Governments

Kirkwood welcomed location of ECICOG on college campus in 1991, providing council with a remodeled building adjacent to Kirkwood Economic Development Services offices. The ECICOG is regional planning agency governed by a board of directors comprising locally elected officials and private citizens. Seventy-two local city governments and six counties participate. The council provides broad range of services in area of strategic community and economic development planning.

University Extension Co-Location

Kirkwood signed agreement with Iowa State University Extension Service to locate regional office of service on Kirkwood campus. Co-location is designed to improve linkages for college transfer and economic development activities and educational programs at new Kirkwood swine laboratory. Regional Extension

programs at new Kirkwood swine laboratory. Regional Extension director and swine specialist will be among those relocating to Kirkwood campus. Agreement will strengthen common outreach services to rural Eastern Iowa by college and service.

Hazardous Material Training & Research Institute (HMTRI)

Formal partnership between Kirkwood and Eastern Iowa Community College which provides training and services to other colleges, industry and private trainers in environmental health and safety. The HMTRI is funded by grants from industry. Staff of eight is employed by the colleges and assigned to institute. Institute is an Iowa not-for-profit corporation which maintains an independent accounting system. Institute receives grant funds and reimburses partner colleges for operational expenses.

North Central Environmental Training Alliance

More than 100 two-year colleges active in environmental training belong to Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE). The North Central alliance involves PETE member colleges in ten North Central states. Organization facilitates staff and program development through partnerships with industry, federal laboratories and other educational institutions. Actively seeks funds from EPA, Department of Defense and Department of Education to support staff development activities.

Coalition of Environmental Training Centers

Formal partnership of EPA-funded state waste water training centers which shares information and advises federal government on environmental training needs of nation. Seeks funding for joint projects. Kirkwood one of 30 members.

Art Museum Walking Tour

KCCK-FM cooperates with Cedar Rapids Museum of Art to produce audio walking tour for museum using station talent and writing by museum staff. Business donors and Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation provide support.

Cable Television Consortiums

College active participant in Educational Communications Consortium (ECC) and Educational Telecommunications Consortium (ETC), which involves several other agencies to design and implement programming on Iowa cable systems.

Iowa Hazardous Materials Team Task Force

Informal partnership of major hazardous materials teams in Iowa. Provides coordinated response to hazardous materials problem and promotes resource sharing.

Macbride Raptor Center

Jointly-sponsored organization and treatment/education center with University of Iowa. Kirkwood on-campus center provides treatment for injured or orphaned wild birds. Center serves important educational purpose for Kirkwood programs in animal health technologies and parks/natural resources. Center also sponsors educational activites for area local school systems. Student and staff volunteers utilized for center management and operations, supervised by two part-time managers. Center is self-supporting, partly through income from memberships sold to public and donations from schools and individuals. Marketing and promotion work shared by Kirkwood and University of Iowa.

IMPACC

Insurance Management Program for Area Community Colleges is a not-for-profit self-insurance partnership which reduces management cost for insurance in 11 categories of insurance for seven of the 15 publicly-supported area community colleges in Iowa. Categories include general liability, property, auto, crime and workmen's compensation. Program also offers member colleges means of acquiring non-pool coverages through group-purchase discounts. Program is open to all Iowa community colleges. Kirkwood was active in helping form program.

Penal Education

Kirkwood joins with Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Department of Corrections in assessment process and delivery of educational/counseling services to hundreds of inmates annually at State Men's Reformatory in Anamosa and Iowa Medical Classification Center at Oakdale. Both institutions are located in college's service area. At both locations, Kirkwood delivers literacy education, GED and adult high school completion, and college credit classes. College classes are delivered by interactive television. At reformatory, Kirkwood also offers face-to-face instruction in subjects such as vocational horticulture and auto collision repair. Funding for programs comes from state appropriations, federal sources, and Pell Grant. Kirkwood takes active part in continuing inmate assessment process and individual inmate treatment assessment.

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Kirkwood
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Learning for Your Life Time